

## Message Text

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ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 NSF-02 OIC-02 AID-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 EA-09 FRB-01 INR-07 IO-14

NEA-10 NSAE-00 USIA-15 OPIC-06 SP-02 TRSE-00

LAB-04 EPG-02 SIL-01 AGRE-00 OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15

/129 W

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P 011934Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5098

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USOECD

PASS: AID/TAB, AID/PPC, OSTP, NSF, COMMERCE.

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TGEN, AID, OECD

SUBJECT: OECD/CSTP/DAC/DC: JOINT MEETING OF NATIONAL  
CORRESPONDENTS ON WORKSHOP ON SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL  
COOPERATION WITH DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, JUNE 20, 1977.

REF: (A) STATE 142340

1. SUMMARY: AS REQUESTED REFTEL (A), SCIENCE COUNSELOR  
REPRESENTED U.S. AT SUBJECT PLANNING MEETING, ASSISTED  
BY SCIENCE ADVISER WAIT AND DEPUTY US REPRESENTATIVE TO  
DAC R.C. MALLEY. CHAIRMAN: DAVID BECKLER, DIRECTOR DSTI  
IN MORNING AND HELMUT FUHRER, DIRECTOR, COOPERATION FOR  
DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE IN AFTERNOON. DISCUSSION WAS  
PARTICULARLY LIVELY ON WORKSHOP OBJECTIVES, LOGIC OF  
SESSION CONCEPTS AND CONTENT, RELATIONSHIP TO NATIONAL  
PREPARATIONS FOR UN CONFERENCE OF 1979, AND TIMING OF  
WORKSHOP. ON LATTER POINT, UNDER STRONG CANADIAN PRESSURE  
BASED ON HEAVY CONFLICTING WORKLOADS, WORKSHOP PUT  
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OFF FROM NOVEMBER TO FEBRUARY 1978 WITH SECRETARIAT TO  
DETERMINE SPECIFIC DATE. INSTRUCTIONS IN REFTEL FULLY  
PRESENTED BY USDEL AND WELL RECEIVED BY DELS. END  
SUMMARY.

2. MEETING WAS ATTENDED BY 26 DELEGATES OF 16 COUNTRIES,  
AND OBSERVERS FROM CEE AND DEVELOPMENT CENTER. FINLAND,

GREECE, ICELAND, ITALY, LUXEMBOURG, NEW ZEALAND, PORTUGAL, SPAIN AND TURKEY WERE ABSENT. MOST DELEGATES WERE WORKING LEVEL OFFICIALS FROM CAPITALS, ABOUT ONE THIRD FROM OECD PERMANENT DELEGATIONS. SECRETARIAT WAS REPRESENTED BY NATORI, TENZER, BELL, STEIN AND VICKERY.

3. BECKLER OPENED MEETING WITH INCISIVE REVIEW OF HISTORY LEADING TO WORKSHOP PROPOSAL, INCLUDING JAPAN INITIATIVE TO CSTEP AND SUMMARY OF OECD BODIES DEALING WITH LDC'S. DISCUSSION ON STRUCTURE AND CONTENT OF THREE WORKSHOP SESSIONS PROPOSED BY SECRETARIAT (FOURTH SESSION WILL BE WRAP-UP) WAS SOMETIMES DIFFUSE AND REMBLING, WITH WELL-KNOWN IDEAS PRESENTED AS ORIGINAL WISDOM. NORWAY EMPHASIZED DIFFERENCES AMONG LDC'S AND URGED THAT SESSION I GIVE MORE STRESS TO GLOBAL PROBLEM OF WAR ON POVERTY AND TAKE UN/NIEO AS POINT OF DEPARTURE. BELGIUM RECOMMENDED LESS ATTENTION TO MODERN INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY AND MORE EMPHASIS ON HEALTH, AGRICULTURE AND MAJOR IMPORTANCE OF LDC SELF-HELP. SWITZERLAND ASKED WHETHER OUR OBJECTIVE WAS ACTION PROGRAM OR INFORMATION EXCHANGE. BELGIUM RESPONDED THAT WORKSHOP SHOULD NOT DESIGN ACTION PROGRAM, BUT SHOULD PROVIDE VALID REFLECTION BUT NOT MERELY PHILOSOPHY. SWEDEN EMPHASIZED NEED TO USE S&T INFORMATION TO ALL LEVELS. YUGOSLAVIA CAUTIONED AGAINST GENERALIZATIONS, SINCE LDC NEEDS ARE INDIVIDUALLY DIFFERENT, AND ALSO UNCLASSIFIED

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DIFFERENT FROM THOSE OF ADVANCED COUNTRIES. AUSTRIA REITERATED GLOBAL CONTEXT. FRG ASKED FOR CLARIFICATION OF BASIC AIMS OF WORKSHOP. CANADA POINTED OUT LIMITED TIME AVAILABLE IN WORKSHOP AND NEED TO CRYSTALLIZE ITS PURPOSE AND LINK WITH UN 1979 CONFERENCE IN PRACTICAL WAY; ALSO THE CHANGING NATURE OF DEVELOPMENT AND OF LDC NEEDS.

4. AT THIS POINT U.S. PROPOSED THAT THE WORKSHOP PURSUE A STRATEGY FOR THINKING ABOUT S&T COOPERATION WITH LDC'S AS A NECESSARY PRELUDE TO A STRATEGY FOR ACTION. THIS WAS ECHOED BY SWITZERLAND AND FRANCE. THE LATTER ADDED SOME THOUGHTS ON UNIVERSALITY AND COMMONALITY OF S&T FOR DEVELOPMENT IN SPITE OF COUNTRY DIFFERENCES AND SUGGESTED AS PART OF STRATEGY FOR REFLECTION (1) ECOLOGICAL IMPLICATIONS (2) SEE HOW COUNTRIES ARE ORGANIZED TO DETERMINE PRIORITIES (3) UNIVERSAL PROBLEM OF STI POLICY IN TERMS OF MEANS AND RESOURCES (4) TRY TO USE REFLECTIVE POTENTIAL OF LDC'S, NOT NECESSARILY RELATED TO MATERIAL WEALTH, TO GUIDE NATIONAL POLICY FOR DEVELOPMENT.

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5. IN SUMMING UP DISCUSSION OF SESSION II, BECKLER MADE FOLLOWING IMPORTANT POINTS: (1) OECD IS NOT CAUCUS FOR COMMON COURSES OF ACTION. OUR AIM IS TO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON NATIONAL APPROACHES AND EXPERIENCE TO THEREBY INFORM AND ASSIST STI POLICY FOR DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION. THIS SHOULD BE INTERPRETATION OF U.S. CONCEPT OF STRATEGY FOR THINKING. (2) WORKSHOP SHOULD HELP MOLD OECD'S FUTURE PROGRAMS. (3) IT SHOULD AFFECT PREPARATION OF COUNTRY PAPERS FOR UN CONFERENCE. (4) BACKGROUND PAPER FOR EACH SESSION WILL INTRODUCE MAJOR ISSUES AND STIMULATE DISCUSSION. (5) GLOBAL VIEW IS NECESSARY BUT NOT TO POINT OF BLURRING LDC DIFFERENCES AND ADOPTING PHILOSOPHICAL STANCE. STI IS CERTAINLY KEY ELEMENT FOR LDC'S BUT NEED NOT BE TIED TO UN/NIEO. (6) SESSION III WILL DEAL WITH IDENTIFYING NEEDS AND HOW MEMBER COUNTRIES AND LDC'S SHOULD IMPROVE PROCESS. (7) MOST LDC'S DO NOT APPRECIATE POTENTIAL ROLE OF PRIVATE SECTOR OF ADVANCED COUNTRIES ( POINT MADE BY U.S.), THE LIMITATIONS ON DC GOVERNMENT ACTIONS, AND BETTER PHASING OF NEEDS AND CAPACITY TO ABSORB AND APPLY S&T. (8) WORKSHOP SHOULD NOT TRY TO SOLVE SPECIFIC PROBLEMS, BUT ILLUSTRATIONS ARE NEEDED TO PROVIDE POLICY ORIENTATION. (9)

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KEY ISSUES MUST BE PRUNED TO MANAGEABLE LIST TO FIT WORKSHOP SCHEDULE.

6. CANADA PROPOSED ELIMINATION OF SESSION

II (IMPROVEMENT OF S&T CAPABILITIES OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES) ARGUING THAT WE CANNOT DIRECTLY IMPROVE LDC INFRASTRUCTURE. GERMANY CLAIMED THAT SESSIONS II AND III SHOULD BE MERGED BECAUSE OF OVERLAP. BECKLER CLARIFIED THAT SESSION II BRIDGES GAP BETWEEN DC POLICIES AND CAPABILITIES, AND LDC NEEDS. CANADA ADVOCATED MAKING SESSION II PART OF SESSION III SINCE NEITHER CAN BE BROKEN UP OR THE TWO MADE CONCURRENT IN THE WORKSHOP. BECKLER AGAIN EXPLAINED THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN II AND III AND THE IMPORTANCE OF MAINTAINING THE DISTINCTION. THE U.K. AND OTHERS SUPPORTED BECKLER AND URGED APPROVAL OF SESSIONS AS PROPOSED, AND CAUTIONED AGAINST LOSING SIGHT OF DIVERSITY OF OECD COUNTRIES AND LDC'S. THE DISCUSSION ENDED SOMEWHAT INDECISIVELY WITH THE WORKSHOP SESSIONS INTACT BUT SUBJECT TO CLARIFICATION AND MINOR CHANGES BY SECRETARIAT.

7. CANADA (JOHN WALKER) MADE A STRONG PLEA, BASED ON HEAVY WORKLOAD IN HIS OTTAWA GROUP, TO MOVE THE WORKSHOP FROM LATE NOVEMBER 1977 TO APRIL/MAY 1978. U.S. STATED THAT WE WERE PREPARED TO PARTICIPATE FULLY IN NOVEMBER WORKSHOP, AND BELIEVED THAT WORKSHOP SHOULD BE EARLY ENOUGH TO INFLUENCE AND ASSIST 1978 PREPARATIONS FOR UN CONFERENCE, NOT VICE VERSA. JAPAN AND SWITZERLAND AGREED. BELGIUM FELT NOVEMBER TOO SOON, SUGGESTED LATE JANUARY OR FEBRUARY. CANADA STILL UNHAPPY, PRESSED FOR LATE SPRING 1978. NO FIRM DECISION WAS MADE, BUT GENERAL EXPECTATION IS A FEBRUARY DATE, AFTER SECRETARIAT DETERMINES DATE OF US CSTP MEETING AND PHASING OF EARLY 1978

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PREPARATORY WORK FOR US CONFERENCE.

8. MISSION COMMENT: GENERAL EXPECTATION IS THAT WORKSHOP WILL BE USEFUL UNDERTAKING IN PROPORTION TO INTEREST AND QUALITY OF PARTICIPATION OF THE MAJOR OECD COUNTRIES. THE SECRETARIAT HAS DONE GOOD JOB IN STRUCTURING THE SESSIONS AND THE CONCEPT WITHSTOOD CONSIDERABLE NITPICKING. COLLABORATION BETWEEN CSTP AND THE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE SEEMS TO BE SMOOTH AND EFFECTIVE. BECKLER AND FUHRER AND THEIR STAFFS ARE GENUINELY INTERESTED AND COMMITTED. THE LINK TO PREPARATIONS FOR THE UN CONFERENCE IS A STRONG POSITIVE INCENTIVE TO ALL DELEGATIONS BUT ALSO A SOURCE OF DIFFICULTY TO THE CANADIANS AND OTHERS IN REQUIRING A GOOD DEAL OF PARALLEL WORK FOR OECD, ECE AND UN WITHIN SAME TIME

PERIOD. OECD DELEGATIONS AND SECRETARIAT EXPECT LEADERSHIP AND VALUABLE INPUTS TO WORKSHOP FROM U.S. MISSION HOPES THAT U.S. PARTICIPATION WILL REFLECT BEST THINKING OF OES, AID, THE NEW TASK FORCE FOR THE UN CONFERENCE, AND OTHER INTERESTED BUREAUS AND AGENCIES. MISSING ELEMENT IN CURRENT SITUATION IS THE CLEAR UNDERSTANDING OF WHAT HAPPENS AFTER WORKSHOP AND WHAT OECD ROLE SHOULD BE IN CONTINUING N-S RELATIONSHIP. LATTER QUESTION COMPRISES ROLE OF S&T COOPERATION WHICH WILL BE SHAPED BY SUBSEQUENT POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS. USEFULNESS OF WORKSHOP IS EXPECTED TO HAVE IMPORTANT INFLUENCE ON FOLLOW-ON DECISIONS AND SUBSEQUENT VISIBILITY OF S&T ISSUES. SALZMAN

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## Message Attributes

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